

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order on Wednesday, October 6, 2004, at 4:10 p.m. by Chairman Bruce Wilson in the Council Chambers, 217 South Main Street, Salisbury, North Carolina. The following members were present and absent:

Present: Bruce Wilson, James Donaldson, Johnny Safrit, Cindy Bridges, Judy Kandl, Michael Lippard, Suzette Davis, Greta Connor and Barbara Perry

Absent: Preston Sale and Bill Safrit

Staff: Lynn Raker, Janice Bodford

Other: Ray and Bobbi Rae Moose, Joe Morris, Robert Crum, Preston Mitchell, Diana Moghrabi

The minutes of the September meeting were approved.

Reviewed and approved the financial report for September.

Bruce read a thank-you note from Tom and Dottie Abramowski for the steaks and bottle of wine given to them in appreciation for contributions of flowers and plants to the City for many years.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Bruce introduced sculptor Ray Moose who specializes in Southeastern Native American art. Mr. Moose explained the process of bronze casting, showed slides of various stages of his work and displayed some of his life size work. It was an informative presentation by a very talented artist.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Art in Public Places:

HAT Charette: Lynn and Barbara reported on the Charette. Although it was difficult to set realistic goals and get any kind of concrete result, it was a valuable time for public input. Jim Hirschfield, who was the lead artist for the team, kept going back to how in Salisbury we span such a large period of history and how intrigued he was with the stories and how they overlap. It was hard to divide it into specific eras. He described it as a trail "In Time, Through Time, Our Story." A full report will be coming from the team in 30 days and a summary will be presented at that time. They drew some quick sketches of possible art pieces, particularly in the Gateway entrance to town. The charette results can be used to leverage for grant money and to put out a request for proposals from artists. Lynn will try to prepare a slide presentation of the concepts for the next CAC meeting. Mark Wineka did an excellent job of capturing the long charette process in his article in the Salisbury Post. Greta asked how much more work has to be done

before the trail can actually be started. We are now working on a system to identify locations where people were or places that events occurred. They are looking for something relatively simple, but more creative than just a plaque to commemorate the locations. There are 80 sites that have already been suggested. Different logos will be discussed and ways to mark those sites. It is hoped that in the coming year, depending on funding, that we might be able to commission a first work.

There was a difference of opinion at the charette about whether to incorporate black history as a part of the other eras or to be brought out as an era of its own. Barbara asked for opinions from CAC members. All opinions expressed were that black history should be inclusive with all the history of Salisbury.

Mosaic Project: Lynn reported that a \$1,000 donation was received yesterday for the mosaic project. We are at the halfway point of raising money (including the Robertson Foundation grant). The contract was approved at the Council meeting two weeks ago. It is in the process of obtaining all the necessary signatures. Robert Crum will proceed with ordering the tiles. We still need to raise about \$12,000.

Neighborhoods & Education Committee: James reported that the Salisbury Community Development Commission received an award in Raleigh for the work that they had done with affordable housing in the Jersey City community. The Jersey City residents have expressed concern about when the work will start on the sidewalks. Lynn commented that she understands the frustration of the group when they have participated and are excited about the decision to do the work but nothing has started yet.

Landscaping: Johnny felt that the Landscape of the Month awards would be suspended until spring based on the comments at last month's meeting.

Municipal Service District and Innes Street Improvement Grants: Committee will meet Monday at 4:00 p.m. to discuss applications that have been received. There is only about \$8,000 left between both grants.

OLD BUSINESS: A couple of years ago a committee from both CAC and Planning Board met to talk about special event signage. Barbara, Preston and Pete Bogle represented CAC on that committee. It is now time to review how that ordinance has worked. Lynn has a list of about 20 different businesses that have applied for the permits since 11/13/2003. Many businesses have flown things without obtaining a permit. Pete Bogle needs to be replaced on this committee and it would be good to have someone with experience (knowledge) of the city code. Judy Kandle volunteered.

NEW BUSINESS: Questions were raised about several issues:

1. The chicken & pig figures in front of restaurants and whether the CAC should have been included in that discussion.
2. The uses of the lot in front of the Salisbury Mall (at Hwy 70). A variety of things have been sold there (mums & pumpkins, tools, etc.). Lynn noted that tent sales are allowed in group developments over a certain size.

3. It seems that the B-5 zoning is growing out a little bit around the central business district. Lynn responded that the advantage to that zoning is that the business can be built up to the curb or sidewalk in B-5 zoning. It would expand on the character of downtown rather than having the strip-type shopping centers with big parking lots in front. A lot of business owners want parking up front.
4. An update on the Innes Street-I-85 project. Innes Street is supposed to be finished by this summer and the bridge should also be finished at that time. The I-85 construction completion date is unknown. A lot of positive comments were made about how quickly the Innes Street bridge construction project is progressing and how good it looks.
5. The Utilities Building on Water St. and the chain link fence. Lynn explained that there is a hairline leak in one of the new water holding tanks that has to be fixed and they are waiting to see if some excavation will be needed. Some security fencing is required by law.

Bruce expressed thanks to all of those who helped with the charette.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.